



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 20 September 2005

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The Desert Sun reports police shot a man after he breached airport security by driving a truck onto the tarmac of the Palm Springs International Airport, and then attempting to run officers over with the truck. (See item [7](#))
- Reuters reports Indonesia says it is on high alert over the H5N1 bird flu threat, even closing Jakarta's main zoo, as it struggles to contain the virus that has killed 64 people in four Asian countries. (See item [20](#))
- The Department of Homeland Security has established the Office for Hurricane Katrina Oversight that will focus on preventing problems through a proactive program of internal control reviews and contract audits to ensure disaster assistance funds are being spent wisely. (See item [26](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 19, Associated Press* — **Norsk Hydro to buy U.S. oil and gas company.** Norsk Hydro ASA, a Norwegian petroleum and aluminum producer, said Monday, September 19, it agreed to buy U.S.-based oil and gas company Spinnaker Exploration Co. for \$2.45 billion to

boost its presence and growth potential in the Gulf of Mexico. The deal is subject to approval by Spinnaker shareholders and U.S. regulatory authorities, Hydro said. Houston-based Spinnaker has production and exploration assets primarily in the Gulf of Mexico. "We believe that the deepwater potential in the Gulf of Mexico is considerable," said Hydro President and Chief Executive Eivind Reiten. He said Hydro's deepwater expertise combined with Spinnaker's skills and acreage position in the region will allow the company to develop those prospects profitably. The Oslo-based company said the deal had been approved by the boards of both companies and was expected to be completed in the fourth quarter.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/business/AP-Norsk-Hydro-Spinnaker.html>

2. *September 19, RenewableEnergyAccess.com* — **New York announces new energy plans.**

With energy prices skyrocketing across the nation, New York State's Governor George E. Pataki announced broad energy plans aimed at cushioning the impact of energy prices on state consumers and homeowners. The plans include an emphasis on renewable energy technologies. In unveiling the plan, the Governor said it is vital that New York take action to minimize the current impact of high fuel prices, increase the use of renewable energy, and develop a long-term strategy to lower the State's dependence on foreign fossil fuels. Pataki noted that the Federal government passed an energy bill this year that provides some valuable incentives to promote greater energy efficiency and use of renewable fuels. However, according to Pataki, further action is needed at the Federal level, in conjunction with State efforts, to provide long-term solutions to decrease our dependence on foreign oil supplies.

More information on New York's energy plan:

http://www.state.ny.us/governor/press/year05/sep15_2_05.htm

Source: <http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story;jsessionid=aEQVYc8jvRz8?id=36740>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

3. *September 19, WCPO News (OH)* — **Natural gas line explosion in Ohio prompts**

evacuations. At least one person has died after an explosion at the Texas Eastern gas plant in Monroe in Butler County, OH. The fire chief of the Monroe Township fire department says that person was thought to be an employee of the company. The initial explosion happened around 11 p.m. EST Sunday night, September 18, in a propane gas pipeline outside a tank at the plant. Witnesses say there were flames leaping into the air from the huge fire at the plant, which is located at the intersection of Yankee and Todd Hunter roads, south of the AK Steel plant. A second explosion was heard near the plant around 12:15 a.m. EST early Monday morning, September 19. Officials say a faulty valve at the facility may be to blame. Fire crews have shut off the valves feeding the fire and plan to let the fire burn itself out. They are not giving any time frame for it to be completely extinguished. Some businesses have been evacuated along Industrial Road; there are no homes in the area.

Source: http://wcpo.com/news/2005/local/09/18/explosion_late.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

4. *September 19, InformationWeek* — **Security becomes financial watchword.** The financial services industry has been roiled this year by a string of data–security lapses involving tapes lost in transit, losses and theft of payment–card information, phishing attacks, and insider scams. The data–security problem reached a new level in June when it was disclosed that a security breach at payment processor CardSystems Solutions Inc. had led to the exposure of 40 million card accounts. Not surprisingly, security tops the list of IT priorities at many financial services companies. Citigroup has said it would encrypt all tapes bound for transit, while Bank of America improved its tape–tracking procedures and launched a system intended to thwart phishing. "A day doesn't go by where information security isn't front and center," says Katherine Busser, CIO of the U.S. card division at Capital One Financial Corp. Banks, insurance companies, and investment firms will spend \$362 billion worldwide this year on IT, according to research firm TowerGroup. Information security, which accounts for about 4% of that total, will be upgraded on several fronts, TowerGroup VP Guillermo Kopp says, by using technology such as two–factor authentication, biometrics, and intrusion detection.
Source: <http://nwc.securitypipeline.com/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=170704316>
5. *September 19, The Mercury News (CA)* — **Children's Health Council data stolen.** A backup tape that contained the Social Security numbers, birth dates and detailed psychiatric and other health information for thousands of current and former clients of the Children's Health Council in Palo Alto, CA, was stolen just after Labor Day, the non–profit agency confirmed Sunday, September 18. Payroll information on about 700 current or former employees and credit card and other financial information from parents of clients also was on the tape, which disappeared from a locked room a day or two after the holiday weekend. One privacy expert said the stolen data — including even the personal information on the adolescent clients of the agency — could be very valuable to identity thieves who could use it to create credit and make purchases in someone else's name. The theft affects an estimated 5,000 to 6,000 clients.
Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/local/states/california/the_valley/12682559.htm
6. *September 18, Los Angeles Times* — **Keylogging programs may take bank customers unaware.** In a twist on online fraud, hackers and identity thieves are infecting computers with increasingly sophisticated programs that record bank passwords and other key financial data and send them to crooks over the Internet. Security experts attribute the new approach to rising savvy among both computer users and crooks. Many users, for instance, know not to reply to unsolicited phishing e–mails requesting financial information. However, keylogging programs can install themselves after computer users open faked e–mails, instant messages or even advertisements on mainstream Websites. Then they record everything typed on a computer — or just what's typed during user visits to specified financial sites. Such information is sometimes sent to the hackers in neat bundles, with a column for the relevant financial Website

followed by columns for the user's log-in name and password. So far, such purloined information has been used to access accounts one by one, by impersonators who withdraw or transfer cash. However, recently thieves have been working to automate more of the process, potentially enabling attacks on thousands of accounts simultaneously. One financial institution has already seen attempted withdrawals that occurred in alphabetical order by the names of customers, said Amir Orad, executive vice president at cyber security company Cyota.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/la-fi-keyloggers18sep18.0.2087216.full.story>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

7. *September 19, Desert Sun (CA)* — **Police shoot man who breached airport security.** Palm Springs, CA, police shot a 39-year-old man early Sunday, September 18, after he allegedly drove a truck onto the tarmac of the Palm Springs International Airport, stopped a plane, fled, and then allegedly attempted to run officers over with the truck. Michael Broderick's injuries are considered non-life threatening and he remains hospitalized at Desert Regional Medical Center, said Palm Springs Police Chief Gary Jeandron, during a news conference Sunday outside police headquarters. He added that the FBI is also investigating and Broderick could face federal charges. The incident began when an emergency alarm went off at one of the airport's entry gates. Airport personnel told police a man, later identified as Broderick, drove a pickup truck onto the runway in front of a Sky West Regional jet traveling from a maintenance building and forced the plane to stop. He allegedly attempted to board the plane, but couldn't gain entry. At least two flights were delayed at the Palm Springs International Airport for about an hour. The airport has since re-opened. Jeandron said police had a run-in with Broderick on Friday, September 17, when officers attempted to arrest him because he seemed to be acting strangely.

Source: <http://www.thedesertsun.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050918/UPDATE/509180348>

8. *September 19, Associated Press* — **Safety board: Chicago train was speeding.** A commuter train that jumped the tracks near downtown Chicago, killing two people, was traveling nearly 60 mph above the speed limit, the acting chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, Mark Rosenker, said on Sunday, September 18. He said that the Metra train was traveling 69 mph and should not have been going faster than 10 mph when it switched tracks at a crossover before jumping the tracks Saturday. "Sixty-nine miles an hour is very, very fast when you're dealing with a 10-mile-an-hour restriction," he said, adding the information came from a preliminary reading of one of the train's three "black boxes." The double-decker commuter train was headed into Chicago from Joliet on Saturday morning with 185 passengers and four crewmembers when its locomotive and five rail cars jumped the tracks some five miles south of downtown. Dozens of passengers were injured. The train began to derail as it switched tracks, striking a steel bridge just beyond the crossover. Rosenker said that collision damaged at least one rail car and likely contributed to at least one of the fatalities. The train signals were working, meaning the engineer should have had enough time to slow down, Rosenker said.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2005-09-18-chicago-train_x.htm

9. *September 19, Associated Press* — **Flight makes emergency landing at Cleveland airport.** A Continental Airlines flight made an emergency landing after the captain noticed a burning smell in the cockpit on Sunday, September 18, an airline spokesperson said. Flight 1703, traveling from Los Angeles to Newark, NJ, landed at Ohio's Cleveland Hopkins International Airport at 3:05 p.m. (CDT), said Martin DeLeon, a spokesperson for Houston-based Continental. A maintenance crew checked out the plane and did not find any problems. The plane continued to Newark later on Sunday.
Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2005-09-19-emergency-landing_x.htm
10. *September 19, Department of Transportation* — **Status of transportation-related hurricane recovery efforts.** The Department of Transportation has provided a series of maps that include the latest information from the Department and its agencies on the operational status of airports, roads and highways, rail lines, transit systems, ports and pipelines in the tri-state area affected by Hurricane Katrina.
PORTS, PIPELINES, REFINERIES:
<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/USDOTReliefSite/pages/portsAndRefs.htm>
ROADS AND HIGHWAYS:
<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/USDOTReliefSite/pages/hiAndBridges.htm>
RAILROADS AND TRANSIT:
<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/USDOTReliefSite/pages/railAndTrans.htm>
AIRPORTS: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/USDOTReliefSite/pages/Airports.htm>
Source: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/USDOTReliefSite/>
11. *September 19, Cincinnati Enquirer (OH)* — **Delta's troubles affect subsidiary Comair.** In the first two days after Delta Air Lines sought bankruptcy protection, more than 110 additional procedural filings were made in the case in New York. Only four additional filings were made regarding Comair, Delta's Cincinnati-based subsidiary. The difference in paperwork is not an indication that the Comair case will go more smoothly than Delta's. Far from it, say experts, who point out that the bankruptcy of an economically stable subsidiary of a parent company also in Chapter 11 can be extremely messy. The experts note that although Comair could be close to breaking even if not actually turning a profit, the way that bankruptcy court works could still mean that the carrier will have to undergo the same painful restructuring as Delta. Comair employs more than 4,000 in the Cincinnati area, operates the most flights at Delta's hub at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, and has a history of labor tension. Delta bought Comair, the nation's third-largest regional carrier, for \$2.3 billion in January 2000.
Source: <http://news.enquirer.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050918/BIZ01/509180332>
12. *September 16, Department of Transportation* — **Transportation Secretary Mineta cuts red tape to allow transit agencies to get services up and running again.** Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta on Friday, September 16, announced the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will allow transit agencies affected by Hurricane Katrina to make use of federal funds to buy supplies, repair buses or equipment, or begin reconstruction without having to use matching local funds until further notice. The Department announced that it was providing to the Mississippi Department of Transportation \$6.1 million for 22 different transit bus operators to buy new buses, pay salaries or any other necessities for get the service up and running again. The local match — typically 20 percent — will be deferred on a case-by-case

basis for communities in the disaster area, as well as for those impacted by the influx of evacuees, Mineta said. This action would allow Federal dollars in existing grants to flow more quickly into the areas to meet the extraordinary demands created by Hurricane Katrina, and for new grants to be awarded before sources of local share can be obtained. The funds can be used to make hurricane-related repairs, to pay for maintenance needed to restore service, to replace damaged vehicles, or to pay for new and expanded transit services needed to transport evacuees.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot13105.htm>

13. *September 14, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-05-943: Highway Congestion: Intelligent Transportation Systems' Promise for Managing Congestion Falls Short, and DOT Could Better Facilitate Their Strategic Use (Report)**. Congestion is a serious and growing transportation problem for the nation. Many strategies—like adding new lanes—have the potential to alleviate congestion but can be costly and have limited application. Another strategy is the use of communications, electronics, and computer technologies—intelligent transportation systems (ITS)—to more effectively utilize existing transportation infrastructure by improving traffic flow. Congress established an ITS program in 1991, and the Department of Transportation (DOT) subsequently set an ITS deployment goal. In this report the Government Accountability Office (GAO) (1) describes the federal role in deployment; (2) assesses DOT's ITS goal and measurement efforts; (3) identifies what ITS studies have found regarding the impacts of ITS deployment; and (4) identifies the barriers to ITS deployment and use. GAO recommends that the Secretary of Transportation improve the measurement of ITS deployment and address some barriers to ITS deployment to help state and local governments select projects that cost effectively meet transportation goals. GAO provided a draft of this report to the Department of Transportation for its review and comment. The department generally agreed with the information in the report and agreed to consider the recommendations.
- Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d05943high.pdf>
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-05-943>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

14. *September 19, Agricultural Research Service* — **Sequencing vital in developing new tests for Johne's disease**. Genome sequencing by Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and University of Minnesota (UM) scientists was vital in the development of new tests that rapidly detect and differentiate bacteria that cause Johne's disease. Johne's, a chronic wasting affliction of cattle and other ruminant animals, costs the U.S. dairy industry about \$200 million a year in reduced milk production. It is caused by infection with *Mycobacterium avium* subspecies paratuberculosis (*M. paratuberculosis*). The new tests directly resulted from the genomic sequencing of *M. paratuberculosis* by researchers at the ARS National Animal Disease Center

(NADC) and UM two years ago. The tests enable detection within 72 hours of the microbe in animals' fecal matter or milk. Previous tests often took between six and 18 weeks to process because of the bacterium's slow growth in the laboratory. The genome research at NADC was a key to the achievement. There, microbiologist John P. Bannantine led the ARS team on work to identify at least 39 novel coding sequences unique to the *M. paratuberculosis* microbe.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2005/050919.htm>

15. *September 19, Reuters* — **Katrina's impact on sugar growers.** Louisiana's sugar growers may have suffered substantial damage from Hurricane Katrina and might have to refine their cane elsewhere because a key refinery remains shut, officials said Friday, September 16. Windell Jackson, senior agronomist for the American Sugar Cane League, which represents 95 percent of cane growers in Louisiana, told Reuters by phone that the storm roared in last month just when farmers were "in the middle of planting." He said the crop could be "significantly lower" when compared to the crop in years past because Katrina knocked down cane tops, shredded leaves, and may have zapped sucrose content in the cane. Louisiana is the second biggest sugar cane grower in the U.S. Complicating things for Louisiana's sugar cane growers is the closure of the Domino Sugar refinery in Chalmette. It processes raw sugar into the refined product. Jackson said the options for sugar growers in Louisiana would include either storing the sugar or possibly processing the sweetener elsewhere.

Source: http://money.cnn.com/2005/09/16/news/economy/katrina_sugar.reut/

16. *September 16, Canada Border Services Agency* — **Canada Border Services Agency starts a dumping and subsidy investigation into grain corn.** The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) announced Friday, September 16, the initiation of an investigation into the alleged injurious dumping and subsidizing of grain corn in all forms, excluding seed corn (for reproductive purposes), sweet corn, and popping corn, from the U.S. The investigation follows a complaint filed by the Ontario Corn Producers' Association, the Fédération des producteurs de cultures commerciales du Québec and the Manitoba Corn Growers Association Inc. The associations allege that the dumping and subsidizing of the goods in question is harming Canadian production by causing price erosion, price suppression, decreased incomes, increased burdens on government support programs, and reduced acreage planted. Dumping occurs when goods are sold to importers in Canada at prices that are less than their selling prices in the exporter's domestic market or at unprofitable prices. Subsidizing occurs when goods imported into Canada benefit from foreign government financial assistance. The Special Import Measures Act protects Canadian producers from the damaging effects of such unfair trade. The CBSA will now investigate whether the imports are being dumped or subsidized and will make a decision by December 15, 2005.

Source: <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/newsroom/release-communique/antidumping/2005/0916ottawa-e.html>

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Food Sector

17. *September 19, Associated Press* — **Mad-cow related ban to be tightened.** The government will close a gap in the U.S. defense against the spread of mad cow disease by changing feed regulations to mirror those in Canada, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) commissioner

Lester M. Crawford said Monday, September 19. In remarks to a food policy conference hosted by the Consumer Federation of America, Crawford said the new regulations would be coming soon. But did not say when. Canada has regulations banning at-risk tissues — brains, spinal cords and other parts that can carry mad cow disease — from feed for all animals, including chickens, pigs and pets. Ground-up cattle remains — leftovers from slaughtering operations — were used as protein in cattle feed until 1997, when a mad cow outbreak in Britain prompted the U.S. to ban the feed industry from using cattle remains in cattle feed. However, the U.S. ban doesn't apply to feed for other animals, creating a potential pathway for the mad cow protein to be fed back to cattle.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/09/19/AR2005091900693.html>

18. *September 16, University of Georgia* — **Research on salmonella in the poultry industry may result in safer food for consumers.** A team of researchers in the newly-formed Department of Population Health at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine has launched a study to determine how to eliminate salmonella bacteria from the poultry production process. “What we’re trying to do is trace salmonella through the food chain, so we can identify at what point in the poultry industry we can introduce intervention measures most effectively,” said John Maurer, associate professor of population health and head of the research team. “Knowing where the salmonella comes from is important so that we can reduce its transmission to the final product that the consumer eats.” The problem is that in chickens and many other animals salmonella rarely causes illness. Adult chickens can be carriers of the bacteria and yet appear perfectly healthy. “If we know that the majority of the contamination is going on in the breeder flocks, we can come up with intervention strategies to keep it from spreading to the offspring,” Maurer said. “If we know that it is acquired on the broiler farm then we know that we have to clean that farm and prevent reintroduction on that farm.”

Source: http://tt.uga.edu/tt/http://www.uga.edu/news/artman/publish/050916_Salmonella.shtml

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Water Sector

19. *September 19, Associated Press* — **Health department offering free testing of well water.**

Residents whose private drinking water well systems may have been contaminated by Hurricane Katrina and the storm's floodwaters can get free testing of those wells to determine if they have dangerous levels of bacteria. The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Louisiana Rural Water Association are offering the free testing. If a water well was flooded, the homeowner must disinfect the well with a chlorine bleach solution, flush it, collect water samples and drop them off for the lab analysis.

Source: <http://www.nola.com/newsflash/louisiana/index.ssf?/base/news-19/1127147641181422.xml&storylist=louisiana>

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Public Health Sector

20. *September 19, Reuters* — **Indonesia is on high alert over bird flu threat.** Two children have been hospitalized in Indonesia with suspected bird flu, prompting the government to put the country on high alert on Monday, September 19, as it struggled to contain a virus that has killed four people. Adding to fears among the general population in Jakarta, authorities closed the city's main zoo after tests showed some exotic birds had been infected with avian flu. Officials also said the cash-strapped government had little money to carry out a mass culling of infected poultry or birds. The highly pathogenic H5N1 strain of the virus has killed four Indonesians, including one woman who died in Jakarta a week ago. The virus has killed 64 people in four Asian countries since late 2003. "It's a high alert. Every region is on alert so if at any time it occurs in remote areas, we are ready," Health Minister Siti Fadillah Supari told reporters, adding the government had not declared a state of emergency. She earlier said two children were being treated in a Jakarta hospital after initial tests showed they had bird flu, while a third child had showed symptoms and was under observation. The high-alert status means the government can order people suspected of having symptoms to be hospitalized.
Source: http://today.reuters.co.uk/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=worldNews&storyID=2005-09-19T120642Z_01_YUE942874_RTRUKOC_0_UK-BIRD-DFLU-INDONESIA.xml&archived=False

21. *September 19, Reuters* — **Poor Asian farmers are weak link in bird flu fight.** Reluctance by poor Asian poultry farmers to report bird flu outbreaks is a weak link in the fight to prevent the deadly disease spreading and causing a human pandemic, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Monday, September 19. "We need to realize that there is very little incentive for farmers to report suspected outbreaks," said Shigeru Omi, WHO regional director for the Western Pacific, which covers 37 Asian and Pacific nations. "In fact, fear that their flocks might be culled without compensation is a pretty strong disincentive to report an outbreak," Omi said. Millions of poultry have been culled in Asia, destroying the livelihood of many poor farmers, since bird flu was first reported in 2003 in southern China and Hong Kong. WHO advocates mass culling when an outbreak occurs, but some countries do not go along. Indonesia, for instance, has launched a vaccination drive for poultry, but has carried out only limited culling because it lacks the money to compensate farmers. WHO has warned that it is only a matter of time before the avian flu virus mutates and spreads between humans, becoming a pandemic which could kill tens of millions.
Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/SYD28137.htm>

22. *September 19, Agence France Presse* — **Angola may soon be declared free of Marburg virus.** Angola may be declared free of the Marburg virus in three weeks time after no new cases of the bug were reported in the past 21 days, the World Health Organization (WHO) said. The death toll from Marburg virus in Angola officially stands at 329 since it broke out last October, with the outbreak centered in the country's northern Uige province. There have been no new cases reported in the past 21 days but the WHO said in a statement on Monday, September 19, that "a minimum period of three weeks is needed for the epidemic to be declared over." There is no cure for the Marburg virus, whose exact origin is unknown and which was first detected in 1967 when West German laboratory workers in the town of Marburg were infected by monkeys from Uganda. It spreads through contact with bodily fluids such as blood, excrement, vomit, saliva, sweat and tears but can be contained with relatively simple hygienic precautions, according to experts.
Marburg virus information: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/spb/mnpages/dispages/marburg>.

[htm](#)

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20050919/hl_afp/angolahealthvirusmarburg_050919130238: ylt=At2ycAJwGGBWGdGmzGI4VqWJOrgF: ylu=X3oDMTBiMW04NW9mBHNIYwMIJVRPUCUI

23. *September 19, Chicago Sun Times (IL)* — Area nursing shortage keeps getting worse.

Chicago, IL—area hospitals are warning there's no end in sight to a six-year nursing shortage that could endanger patient care. Past shortages were cyclical and usually eased after a few years. But the current shortage that began in 1999 just keeps getting worse. The reason is more aging baby boomers are needing hospital care, while aging nurses are reaching retirement age. The average age of nurses is 47, said Mary Anne Kelly, vice president of the Healthcare Council. By 2020, Illinois will have a shortage of 21,000 registered nurses, about 19 percent of the projected demand. "It's not just a short-term problem," Kelly said. "It will need long-term solutions." Hospitals are competing for the limited pool of nurses by offering higher pay, signing bonuses, flexible hours, child care, and tuition reimbursements. And, they are recruiting nurses from the Philippines and other foreign countries. Despite such efforts, not enough young people are entering the field.

Source: <http://www.suntimes.com/output/news/cst-nws-nurse19.html>

24. *September 18, Associated Press* — New Orleans' health system faces crisis. New Orleans' health care facilities have been shattered to an extent unmatched in U.S. history, and its hospital system faces grave challenges as residents begin returning, the vice president of the national hospital accreditation organization said Sunday, September 18. The official, Joe Cappiello, said several hospitals were probably damaged beyond repair by Hurricane Katrina, while some may try to rush back into business before conditions are safe. Others, while rebuilding, may lose doctors and nurses to communities elsewhere. Although the city has more than a dozen hospitals, none have resumed normal operations. Cappiello expressed concern that some hospitals, desperate to get back into business for competitive as well as public service reasons, might move too quickly, before all mold and contaminants from the flooding are removed. Many local doctors and nurses are without paychecks, he said: "There's a nationwide shortage of nurses. People will try to recruit them and many may never come back."

Source: <http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2005/09/18/national/a132226D17.DTL>

25. *September 18, Market Watch* — Many U.S. hospitals called unprepared for big disasters.

The deaths of 45 patients who were stranded at one of the many New Orleans hospitals that were crippled after Hurricane Katrina is forcing the nation's emergency medicine experts to reexamine disaster planning. Despite mandatory twice-a-year drills for an emergency in a worst-case scenario, many of the 5,000 U.S. hospitals are ill-prepared to handle the kind of catastrophe that led to the tragedy at New Orleans' Memorial Hospital, experts say. "Hospitals need to be prepared to deal with disasters by themselves for sustained periods of time, and most hospitals in this country are not capable of doing that," said Robert Suter, president of the American College of Emergency Physicians. Hospitals in a crisis face daunting decisions such as when and where to evacuate patients, and their budgets force them to weigh preparing for a disaster that may never occur against the demands of everyday health-care needs. Creating a kind of playbook to guide those decisions gets even more complicated thanks to laws restricting the transfer of patients to other facilities. Most hospitals' city wide drills focus on how to handle large volumes of patients affected by a disaster and rarely include themselves as part of the

crisis, Suter said.

Source: <http://www.investors.com/breakingnews.asp?journalid=31690569 &brk=1>

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Government Sector

26. *September 19, Department of Homeland Security* — **DHS Inspector General initiates office for Hurricane Katrina Oversight.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Inspector General, Richard L. Skinner, announced on Monday, September 19, that Matthew Jadacki will join his office to establish the Office for Hurricane Katrina Oversight. The office will focus on preventing problems through a proactive program of internal control reviews and contract audits to ensure disaster assistance funds are being spent wisely. Jadacki joins the DHS Office of Inspector General on a detail assignment from the National Weather Service. The Office for Hurricane Katrina Oversight will maintain a visible presence primarily in the states of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Jadacki will be responsible for overseeing the management and expenditure of all contracts, grants and governmental operations related to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Jadacki also will be responsible for coordinating the audit activities of other federal Inspector Generals who have an oversight responsibility for the funds transferred to their respective departments and agencies by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to assist in the disaster relief efforts.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4827>

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Emergency Services Sector

27. *September 20, Bangor Daily News (ME)* — **Mock disaster drill in Maine called a success by participants.** Bucksport, ME, conducted a disaster drill Saturday morning, September 17, designed to test whether local, county, state and federal officials are properly prepared to respond to a major emergency. After seven months of planning, more than 200 people participated in the daylong drill at Sprague Dock, including firefighters, police officers, health officials, military teams, hazardous chemical experts and public safety personnel. Inside an area roped off by yellow police tape, emergency responders went through the motions of triage, hazardous materials collection, de-contamination and bomb identification. American Red Cross workers were also there, providing food and water to the relief workers. The Maine National Guard's 11th Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team was among the participants. In an emergency, the unit would be called upon to help identify the substance found in a bomb or suspicious package, for example. While Saturday's exercise was specific to an act of terrorism, the training session would be relevant to any type of situation resulting in mass casualties, according to Ralph Pinkham, director of the county's Emergency Management Agency. "I think these Homeland Security-type exercises that we do better prepare us for any type of disaster," he said.

Source: <http://www.bangornews.com/news/templates/?a=120339>

28.

September 19, Reuters — **Southeast Asia mounts first joint disaster drill.** Rescue workers used sniffer dogs and thermal-imaging devices to search rubble on Monday, September 19, in Southeast Asia's first coordinated disaster-response drill, which simulated a building collapse after an earthquake. Sirens wailed and beacons flashed as fire trucks and ambulances raced in heavy rain to the Malaysian site of the drill, which also involved rescuers from Brunei and Singapore, fellow members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). In the scenario, rescuers pretend the quake strikes before dawn, with Malaysia declaring an emergency soon after daybreak. Its deputy prime minister later calls on neighbors Singapore and Brunei for help as the extent of devastation becomes clearer. When simulated rescue operations began, about 180 Malaysian rescue workers searched for survivors of the building collapse. Later they were joined by 27 more from Singapore, and six from Brunei. A further step in the exercise involved a fire breaking out in the basement of a nearby building, trapping 50 people. "Apart from testing mobilization of cross-border assistance and deployment of urban search-and-rescue capabilities, the three countries will also take the opportunity to test their own preparedness and internal coordination," ASEAN said on its Website.

ASEAN Website: <http://www.aseansec.org/>

ASEAN Member Countries: <http://www.aseansec.org/4736.htm>

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/KLR22134.htm>

29. *September 18, Metro West Daily News (MA)* — Disaster drill tests response in

Massachusetts. Massachusetts' Marlborough Hospital held a mock drill Saturday, September 17, to improve how that hospital and others respond to a disaster or terrorist attack. The hospital and the city's fire and police departments were taking part in a larger Central Massachusetts drill testing the region's ability to respond to an attack. In Saturday's staged scenario, a terrorist released nitric acid at a concert, sending 4,500 "victims" to 14 hospitals, including Marlborough Hospital and MetroWest Medical Center's Framingham and Natick sites in Massachusetts. The Marlborough drill involved some delays and caused people to wait around, and an hour passed between the fire department's arrival and the first showers. Officials attributed that to the awkwardness of role playing and having to pretend that key pieces of information were not yet known, even though they were. The Framingham drill proceeded with some glitches. A diesel generator that powered the decontamination unit would not start initially. A hot water heater also malfunctioned, so the victims had to endure cold showers. There was also a brief communication problem between firefighters and emergency room officials when extra staff was needed, but that problem was quickly corrected, and overall the drill was "excellent," he said.

Source: <http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/localRegional/view.bg?articleid=109204&format=text>

30. *September 17, News-Press (FL)* — Florida agencies practice response to terrorism. In one of the largest simulated emergency response exercises ever in Southwest Florida, a terrorist cell Friday, September 16, attacked the Lee County Sports Complex during a mock baseball game. The exercise included bombs going off inside Hammond Stadium laced with the chemical agent Lewicite. More than 20 agencies worked together, communicated and responded quickly to mass fatalities, chemical contaminations, severe injuries and a hostage crisis. Between 400 and 500 people took part in the event, including about 200 volunteers, organizers said. The terrorist exercise comes after local, state and federal emergency officials were widely criticized for their response to Hurricane Katrina. Exercise director John Campbell said the simulation — the

first of its kind in Lee County since January 2001 — was meant to improve breakdowns in communication. "When we have these exercises, relationships are established that are invaluable. Firemen were talking to cops," said Campbell. Emergency management, LeeTran, Lee County Sheriff's Office, fire districts, emergency medical services and area hospitals were among the participants.

Source: <http://www.news-press.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050917/NEWS01/509170517/1075>

31. *September 15, WBOC-16 (MD)* — **New communication system links emergency services in several Maryland counties.** All nine Eastern Shore of Maryland counties will soon be linked together by a new emergency communication system that is near completion. The \$5 million system was paid for by the federal government in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks. It places radio transmissions on the same channel during crisis situations so police, fire and other emergency personnel can communicate directly with each other. "This is something that up until now that we've never been able to accomplish, but this is a great opportunity for the Eastern Shore to have this tool to operate on in disasters," said Teresa Owens of Worcester County Emergency Services. Police officers who work the street say it may help them apprehend fugitives faster.

Source: <http://www.wboc.com/Global/story.asp?S=3855712&nav=MXEFaYD>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

32. *September 19, Eweek* — **Donations overwhelm Red Cross staff, site.** In the wake of Hurricane Katrina the Red Cross was faced with an overwhelmed IT infrastructure that was unable to handle the numerous online donations. After the tsunami in Southeast Asia last December, the Red Cross faced a huge number of online donations in which the IT staff worked long hours and offloaded some of the transaction processing to technology partners. However the donation system still wasn't ready for Hurricane Katrina. Dave Clarke, chief technology officer at the Red Cross stated, "As soon as we understood the magnitude of the tragedy, we knew the money would be coming in. When we began to see the initial transaction volume, we determined that if it continued on that growth curve, we would run out of capacity. And we knew we had to get ready."

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,1860051,00.asp>

33. *September 16, Yahoo* — **Tuning into passwords.** Many people have heard of keyboard sniffing, in which someone sneaks software into your computer and monitors e-mail or documents. There is a new security threat that researchers are warning: keyboard listening. A graduate student in computer science at the University of California–Berkeley, developed a way of making audio recordings of keyboard strokes to see if words and phrases could be deciphered accurately. Using a microphone plugged into a laptop running generic speech recognition and spell-check software, the team was able to associate the sound of individual keys on a keyboard with specific letters and thus figure out what was being written with 96 percent accuracy.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/sv/www12662937;_ylt=AiX.GcAU5Lpn34bns3op.pus0NUE;_ylu=X3oDMTA3cjE0b2MwBHNIYwM3Mzg-,http://siliconvalley.com

34. *September 16, Secunia* — **Sun Solaris X11 Pixmap creation integer overflow vulnerability.** Secunia Advisory SA16845, is reporting that Sun Microsystems is reporting a vulnerability in Solaris. This vulnerability may be potentially exploitable by malicious local users to gain escalated privileges. Preliminary T-patches are located on the Secunia site.
Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/16845/>
35. *September 16, Secunia* — **Digital Scribe "username" SQL injection.** A vulnerability has been reported in Digital Scribe, which can be exploited by malicious people to conduct SQL injection attacks and compromise a vulnerable system. Analysis showed that input passed to the "username" parameter in "login.php" is not properly sanitized before being used in a SQL query. This can be exploited to manipulate SQL queries by injecting arbitrary SQL code, which can further be exploited to compromise a vulnerable system if combined with inappropriate functionality which allows editing the PHP files "header1.php", "header2.php", and "footer.php" via the template editing functionality.
Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/16841/>

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: US-CERT has received reports of multiple phishing sites that attempt to trick users into donating funds to fraudulent foundations in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. US-CERT warns users to expect an increase in targeted phishing emails due to recent events in the Gulf Coast Region.

Phishing emails may appear as requests from a charitable organization asking the users to click on a link that will then take them to a fraudulent site that appears to be a legitimate charity. The users are then asked to provide personal information that can further expose them to future compromises.

Users are encouraged to take the following measures to protect themselves from this type of phishing attack:

1. Do not follow unsolicited web links received in email messages
2. Contact your financial institution immediately if you believe your account/and or financial information has been compromised

US-CERT strongly recommends that all users reference the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) web site for a list of legitimate charities to donate to their charity of choice.

For more information and current disaster updates please see URL:
<http://www.fema.gov/>

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	6881 (bittorrent), 1026 (win-rpc), 445 (microsoft-ds), 40000 (----), 135 (epmap), 139 (netbios-ssn), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 26777 (----), 2234 (directplay), 55321 (----)
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Source: <http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html>; Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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General Sector

- 36. *September 16, Knight Ridder Newspapers* — Court links Missouri charity, terror.** A Missouri charity financed terrorism and is connected to a similarly named organization in Sudan, a federal judge has concluded. The findings came Thursday, September 15, in a 36-page order from U.S. District Judge Reggie B. Walton in which he threw out a lawsuit filed by the Islamic American Relief Agency–USA, which is based in Columbia, MO. The charity had sought to thaw its assets, which the Treasury Department froze last year. Lawyers for the Missouri charity have denied any link to terrorism and have said the charity is entirely separate from the Sudanese organization. Drawing both on public records and classified documents, Walton concluded that the Treasury Department had ample authority to freeze the charity's bank accounts as part of the government's war on terrorism. The FBI raided the group's office, and Treasury agents labeled the group as a terrorist supporter on October 13, 2004. Federal authorities alleged that the Columbia charity is part of an international network of nonprofits, including IARA in Sudan, that have supported al Qaeda and its predecessor, the Maktab Al-Khidamat. Treasury officials also accused five international IARA charity officials of supporting other terrorist groups, such as Hamas and the Taliban.

Source: <http://www.kansas.com/mld/kansas/news/nation/12666836.htm>

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<http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

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Subscription and Distribution Information:	Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983–3644 for more information.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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